

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	25X1
TOPIC	Military Information from Potsdam		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	12 February 1953
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	8	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

1. Prior to 17 December 1952, the south section of the Delius Kaserne, Potsdam, was occupied to capacity by an estimated 1,000 troops wearing either red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia, or black-bordered crimson epaulets, and by women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on 8 December, about 20 soldiers were maintaining motor vehicles at the garages opposite the installation; about 10 soldiers with two aiming circles and two tripods and maps left for the Bornstedterfeld; and three groups of 12 men each practiced the taking up of prone position in a succession of timed motions at Bornstedterfeld. Between 10:30 a.m. and noon on 10 December, about 40 soldiers engaged in physical training in the barracks yard, and 4 groups of 10 men each engaged in close combat practice at Bornstedterfeld. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to the installation.

2. Prior to 17 December, the north section of the Delius Kaserne, as previously, was occupied to capacity by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia and women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. At about 9 a.m. on 8 December, 12 soldiers carrying five radio sets left the installation toward Nedlitz. Truck [redacted] towing a 76.2-mm field gun with a carbine fixed to the barrel, left the installation. The truck was occupied by an officer and five EM. Between 10 a.m. and noon on 9 December, soldiers received instruction on a 152-mm gun howitzer in the barracks yard. Twelve soldiers with three grenade launchers marched to the Bornstedterfeld for rifle grenade firing practice. About 20 troops practiced advancing by bounds. Between 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. on 12 December, 12 soldiers, including 6 armed with submachine guns and the others unarmed, marched to Bornstedterfeld. They were followed by 13 soldiers armed with rifles and carrying two targets; and 12 soldiers armed with rifles and carrying entrenching tools. On 16 December, an undetermined number of troops received instruction on three guns. [redacted] only the carriages. A rifle grenade firing practice was held at Bornstedterfeld. Between 10:30 a.m. and noon on 17 December, prime movers [redacted] were seen at driving practice on Bornstedterfeld. Six soldiers were stringing telephone lines in the Nedlitzerholz (woods). Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to the installation, the latter coming from the Hohenlohe Kaserne.

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25X1

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- 2 -

- 25X1 3. Prior to 17 December, the Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied by about
500 troops wearing: red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and
25X1 motor transport insignia; black-bordered crimson and black-bordered
blue epaulets; and by an undetermined number of women wearing red-
bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; and black-bordered
25X1 blue epaulets. At about 10 a.m. on 9 December, an officer and 10 EM
were seen making terrain sketches between the Hohenlohe Kaserne and
the Delius Kaserne; and 6 NCOs with artillery insignia were seen on
an orientation march using the map. Trucks [redacted]
[redacted] were seen at driving practice, proceeding toward
Wildpark. On 18 December, six soldiers with commander's telescopes entered
the installation. Trucks [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] were seen en route to the
installation.
- 25X1 4. Prior to 17 December, the Ludendorff Kaserne was occupied to capacity
by an estimated 600 to 700 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets
with artillery and motor transport insignia. Training activities were
almost exclusively restricted to instruction in the quarters, maintenancing
of motor vehicles and fatigue duty. An earth shelter and, about 25 meters
from it, a target butt were being built in the southwest section of the
installation.¹
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- 3 -

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7. Prior to 12 December, the south section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied by an estimated 700 to 800 soldiers most of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia, and a few wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets [redacted] believed to be recruits. At about 11 a.m. on 6 December, the troops received instruction in their billets and did fatigue duty. At 2:15 p.m. on 12 December, [redacted] soldiers doing fatigue duty and maintaining motor vehicles. Two groups of recruits of about 20 men each, armed with rifles and carrying targets, entered the installation, coming from Katharinenholz. About 20 soldiers practiced observing terrain on Bornstedterfeld.
8. Prior to 12 December, the north section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by an estimated 800 to 900 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport or signal insignia. At about 11 a.m. on 8 December, instruction and drill was observed in the barracks area and marksmanship training with rifles was seen at Bornstedterfeld. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to the installation.
9. Prior to 12 December, the Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied by about 500 to 600 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia. On 6 December, soldiers were observed receiving instruction in the billets or at fatigue duty. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to the installation.
10. Prior to 12 December, the Ludendorff Kaserne was occupied to capacity by an estimated 700 to 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia. At 11:30 a.m. on 6 December, soldiers were observed engaged in fatigue duty and maintaining motor vehicles in the installation. Training with rifles was given at Bornstedterfeld. At about 3 p.m. on 12 December, the troops received instruction in their quarters and engaged in field training at Bornstedterfeld. No vehicular traffic was observed. 1

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- 4 -

12. Prior to 1 January 1953, the Kavallerieschule in Krampnitz was occupied by 5,000 to 6,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia, and black-bordered black epaulets. Between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on 23 December, a T-34 tank was seen at driving practice in the west section of the installation. About 80 soldiers fired with rifles, about 30 soldiers received instruction on light machine guns, about 20 soldiers cut trees and prepared trip wire entanglements, and about 80 troops were at field training in the training area north of the installation. Four T-34 tanks and 1 armored scout car were seen north of the garage No 55. Three T-34 tanks [redacted] left the installation for the training area. Between 9 a.m. and noon on 31 December, the troops received instruction, maintained motor vehicles, and practiced driving on 2 T-34 tanks and 5 trucks [redacted]

14. Prior to 21 December, the north section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. At 1:30 p.m. on 13 December, about 50 soldiers received infantry training. At 4:15 p.m. on 15 December, about 80 troops practiced marching. On 13 December, 3 x 122-mm field guns were seen in shed No 7 and 2 x 122-mm field guns were seen on 18 December. On 20 December, three prime movers, towing a 122-mm field gun each, were seen entering the installation. Motor vehicles [redacted]

[redacted] were seen en route to the installation.¹

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25X1

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- 5 -

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- [redacted]
- [redacted] 16. Prior to 21 December, the Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport insignia. About 80 percent of the windows of the quarters were lighted at dusk. On 18 December, about 80 soldiers practiced marching. No other training activity was observed. Sedans [redacted] were seen en route to the installation.
17. Prior to 21 December, the Ludendorff Kaserne was occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport insignia. Trucks were seen in garage No 14. On 20 December, nine soldiers were constructing an earth bunker near the newly erected pistol firing range at the southwest corner of the installation.
- [redacted] 18. In early December, Kitchen No 7e in the General Wever Kaserne started operation. The kitchen was used by the advance detail. Source observed no changes in the daily training routine, which included breakfast from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., roll call and marching in review from 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and interior duties, probably instruction, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Little activity was observed in the barracks yard. The unit did not go out of the installation. On 3 December, three groups of each 15 soldiers received basic training in front of the billets of the signal unit. On 5 December, 10 soldiers of the signal unit, each with a crate, 50 x 50 x 80 cm, which contained transmitter tubes, were seen in front of garage No 8d. After 10:30 a.m., about 60 soldiers participated in a race, which was umpired by four officers. From 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., on 11 December, four groups of eight signal soldiers each drilled with and without rifles. At about 1 p.m., 2 officers and 30 signal soldiers were seen entering the installation. They marched to Building No 14. At about 3 p.m., 90 soldiers marched from Building No 8a, which housed the advance detail, to Kitchen No 7. All soldiers had red epaulets. Seventy soldiers with red epaulets fell in in front of Building No 7a. Between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 12 December, 60 troops with red epaulets policed the quarters of the advance detail. Trucks [redacted] which were stationed in a garage No 8c, were seen nearby.¹
19. Prior to 2 January, the Kriegsschule in Potsdam was occupied by an estimated 1,200 officers and soldiers. The troops assembled for roll call every morning at 7:15 a.m. between Buildings No 8 and No 11. After the salute, the troops marched in review preceded by a military band. A general, who was said to reside on Am Schragen, was stationed in the installation. On 22 December, [redacted] Building No 10 was occupied by 200 officer candidates, most of whom wore signal insignia. At about 9:30 a.m., 60 officer candidates with red epaulets and 40 officer candidates with signal insignia left Club Building No 2 for Building No 6 and No 10 respectively. From 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., four groups each of 10 officer candidates wearing signal insignia received basic drill and engaged in aiming practice with rifles. At about

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- 6 -

25X1

1:30 p.m., 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying tripods and rifles entered the installation and marched to Building No 5. From 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., lunch was served. Sedan [] was seen in front of headquarters building No 11 at 4 p.m.

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From 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on 23 December, instruction was given in Buildings No 2 and 7. At 9:30 a.m., 30 officer candidates with red epaulets carrying rifles and practice targets left the installation. Two groups of each 30 officers of various branches of service went to the officers' club. Five groups of each 10 officer candidates left for drill. Sedan [] went to headquarters building No 11. At 1 p.m., about 150 officers of various branches of service organized in five platoons fell in in front of Building No 9. They subsequently marched to kitchen building No 3. At 3:30 p.m., three groups of each 30 officers marched to club No 2, coming from building No 9. Sixty officer candidates wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia marched to instruction building No 7, coming from building No 6. On 29 December, 40 officer candidates with red epaulets engaged in close combat practice with rifles and wooden rifles in front of house No 17, which was being reconditioned. Twenty other officer candidates with red epaulets received basic training without rifles.

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At 7:45 a.m. on 2 January, 40 officer candidates with signal insignia from building No 10 and about 60 officer candidates with red epaulets from building No 6 marched to building No 2. At 9:30 a.m., two platoons each of 30 officers of various branches of service marched with rifles to the drill ground in front of the riding house, coming from building No 9. Four groups each of 10 officer candidates engaged in aiming practice. At 1 p.m., 30 officer candidates with artillery insignia and carrying map pouches entered the installation and proceeded to building No 6. At 3:30 p.m., 30 officers received basic training between building No 8 and No 11. At about 5 p.m., [] occupied by three officers left at headquarters building No 11. At 5:30 p.m., the guard was relieved. About 90 soldiers and officer candidates, about half of them armed with rifles and submachine guns, participated.⁵

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20. Prior to 21 December, the Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied as previously. Only movements within the installation were observed. Building No 3 was occupied by 120 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Building No 4 was occupied by air force soldiers who previously had been stationed in building No 1a. The barracks building was partly occupied by air force officers. Garage No 8 and the former stable, building No 13, were being utilized by the artillery, while garages Nos 9 and 10 and the former stable, building No 14, was being used by the air force unit. One wing of building No 13 included four billets for drivers, another wing housed a storage room for equipment of the air force unit. The first floor of building No 1a was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, probably headquarters personnel. The air force unit was under the command of a colonel. A second colonel was believed to be the administrative officer. On 10 December, artillerymen without arms were drilling in the barracks yard. At 2 p.m., about 25 to 30 officers and about 80 air force soldiers armed with rifles and submachine guns fell in. Seven empty trucks [] were in front of the depot.⁴

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- 7 -

22. Prior to 18 December, the General Wever Kaserne in Potsdam-Golm appeared to be occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia on black-bordered crimson epaulets. [redacted] new officers with dependents had arrived in early December. Between 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., about 120 troops on trucks daily left the installation toward Wildpark. Trucks [redacted] were identified on 4 December; trucks [redacted] on 5 December; and trucks [redacted] on 10 December. Each truck was occupied by about 30 troops. The radio installation on the eastern edge of the installation was being further enlarged. The construction work was done exclusively at night. On 11, 12, 15 and 16 December, 35 unarmed soldiers were seen at drill. Motor vehicles seen en route to the installation [redacted]

Type of Tanks

	T-34/85	T-44	JS-122	JS-3
Gross weight in tons	32.1	32	46	47
Crew	5 men	4 men	4 men	4 men
Number of shells carried	20	20	25	10
Turret: Thickness of front armor	52 mm	120 mm	100 mm	210 mm
of side armor	75 "	90 "	100 "	120 "
Hull, upper plate	45 "	90 "	100 "	120 "
lower plate	45 "	90 "	100 "	110 "
Rear, upper plate	45 "	30 "	60 "	60 "
lower plate	45 "	45 "	60 "	60 "
Cover plate and under side in mm	20-20	20-15	20-20	20-20
Propulsion and Make	B-2-34	B-44	B-2-JS	B-110
HP	500	500	520	520
Maximum speed in km/h	56	51	37.7	40

Comment. These observations confirm the occupation of the installations as carried according to the last report in November 1952. [redacted] The observation of soldiers with red epaulets in the General Wever Kaserne is of interest. In this connection, it should be mentioned that [redacted] 200 soldiers wearing red-bordered red epaulets

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- 8 -

had arrived in the Loewen Kaserne in early January 1953. It remains to be seen, whether it is a new service color or special units.

5. Comment. The Kriegsschule in Potsdam appears to be occupied before the departure of the troops. According to a previous report, the loading of units started after 1 December and was completed by 7 December, leaving the Kriegsschule occupied by a rear detail only. The detailed information in this report confirms that the Kriegsschule was occupied to capacity in early January 1953 by the officers' school of the GDRG. It is possible, however, that an instruction staff with an instruction unit was transferred

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